

SMART URBAN FUTURES

March
26 & 27
2014

Spring Street
Conference Centre,
corner Spring and
Flinders Streets,
Melbourne

Building Liveable, Walkable, Sustainable Communities

The world is transforming rapidly. Communities of the future will have older populations and be more energy conscious, with residents struggling to balance their lifestyle and health. Cities and towns will compete with each other to provide the best lifestyle, in order to attract residents, visitors and businesses. Communities that are not built for people will face a declining future.

This conference will examine how to design communities to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Key themes include:

- Cities for everyone – planning for mobility including children, seniors and disadvantaged communities.
- Urban sustainability and retrofitting/regenerating existing urban areas
- The walking economy – why the knowledge economy will be powered by feet.
- Common solutions to the multiple challenges of climate change, the obesity epidemic and an ageing population in a time-poor society.
- Climate change, peak oil and energy vulnerability
- Healthy communities and strategies to combat obesity
- Technology and the impact on lifestyle
- Ageing populations
- The need for social inclusion and local connectivity
- Designing streets for people
- Optimising local business outcomes
- Localisation
- Empowering the community to own their own streets

This ground-breaking, inclusive event will feature a range of significant local and international case studies and world-class presenters including:

- **Larry Frank**, Bombardier transportation chair at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver
- **Rodney Tolley**, Staffordshire University (UK), author of "The Greening of Urban Transport: Planning for Walking and Cycling in Western Cities", Director of Walk21
- **Janette Sadik-Khan**, Transportation Commissioner for New York City
- **Charlie Hales**, Mayor of Portland, Oregon

Who Should attend: Councillors, Directors, Strategic Planners, Urban Designers, Sustainability Officers, Transport Planners, Asset Managers, Organisational Development Managers, Corporate Planners, Stakeholders and Health Promotion Practitioners.

Conference presented by MAV and Victoria Walks



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Wednesday, March 26

8.30am	Registration and coffee
9am	Welcome from MAV President and Victorian Walks Chair
9.15am	'The Walking Economy,' Dr Rodney Tolley, Staffordshire University, Director Walk 21
	RRod has authored and edited a number of books, most notably "The Greening of Urban Transport: Planning for Walking and Cycling in Western Cities". We 'know' that walking is good for us, personally, in terms of improving physical and mental health. However, there is a growing realisation across governments that by encouraging walking a myriad of topical community issues can be addressed, including traffic congestion; air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; urban sprawl; social exclusion; community alienation; death and injury in crashes; and all of these – and more besides – have powerful economic effects. It is also becoming clearer how important walkers are to expenditure in shops, the economic vitality of city centres and in supporting the knowledge economy. This presentation will bring up to date our understanding of the economic and other benefits of more people walking more often.
10.05am	'The 20 Minute City', Rob Adams, Director, City Design, City of Melbourne
	Professor Rob Adams is one of the champions of urban design in Australia today, with more than 38 years' experience as a practising designer in private enterprise and public service. More recently, he has made a significant contribution to the City's 'Zero Emissions 2020' project through such buildings as the East Melbourne Library, Queen Victoria Market solar panels and the multi-award winning CH2 building – Australia's first six star commercial building. Rob's division has received more than 120 state and national awards for design excellence. Currently, he is exploring what the '20-minute city' could mean for Melbourne: a central concept underpinning the ideas, debate and discussion about the economics of building the necessary infrastructure; how transport priorities are determined; the sociology underpinning behavioural change; and the latest planning methodologies, technological innovations and social media available to assist.
10.50am	Morning tea
11.20am	'Remaking the Streets of New York', Janette Sadik-Khan, Transportation Commissioner for New York City (video)
	In the six years that Janette Sadik-Khan has headed the New York City Department of Transportation, streets have been transformed. Across the five boroughs, 26 acres of asphalt were converted into 50 pedestrian plazas. New bus lanes are speeding transit trips on major thoroughfares in Manhattan, the Bronx, Staten Island, and soon Brooklyn. The city added dozens of miles of protected on-street bike lanes – groundbreaking designs for an American city – and 350 miles of bikeways overall. The biggest bike-share system in the country launched this May, and now regularly sees 40,000 trips per day. So what is the lesson from this new era of change on New York City's streets? "You can remake your streets, quickly, inexpensively – they can provide immediate benefits and it can be quite popular," says Sadik-Khan. These changes have improved safety, boosted retail performance, and elicited impressive public approval ratings. Janette emphasises that it wouldn't have been possible to accomplish so much in such a short time frame if it weren't for the original stroke of genius: the decision to test things out to see what succeeds.
11.45am	'Retro-fitting urban communities to improve outcomes', Joan Ko, Senior Sustainability Consultant, Arup.
	Joan is a sustainability consultant working with local governments, property developers and industry associations around the world on organisational strategy, urban development, planning policy and sustainability management. Her background in carbon management and assessment has fed her interest in how to develop neighbourhood-scale sustainable infrastructure through development strategy, planning provisions and community trusts. She has helped the City of Melbourne set efficiency benchmarks for new buildings and precincts as part of its planning process. Joan will present findings on analysis undertaken on 20 examples of major community-scale retrofit programmes around the world.
12.20pm	'Urban design and social inclusion', Janet Stanley, Chief Research Officer, Monash Sustainability Institute.
	Prior to her current role, Janet was Senior Manager, Research and Policy at the Brotherhood of St. Laurence. Janet's current research interests are in relation to social policy, transport, equity and policy on climate change, bushfire arson, social exclusion, social capital and community development, and project evaluation. Janet is a member on the Ministerial Advisory Council for the Victorian Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Innovation. Janet has co-authored 'No Way to Go: Transport and Social Disadvantage in Australian Communities'.
12.55pm	Lunch



1.45pm	'Urban Renewal Models in NYC and Unintended Cities', Marcus Spiller, SGS Principal and former President, Planning Institute of Australia
	Dr Marcus Spiller is a Principal, Partner and Director of SGS Economics & Planning Pty Ltd. His consulting experience spans land economics, regional development, housing policy, infrastructure funding and policy co-ordination systems. He has taken up secondments as lecturer in urban economics at the University of Melbourne, adviser to the Minister for Planning and Housing in Victoria and senior executive in the Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning. He is an Adjunct Professor in Urban Management at the University of Canberra, a former member of the National Housing Supply Council and a former National President of the Planning Institute of Australia.
2.25pm	Panel session: 'How to improve urban sustainability: design versus politics'.
	Dr Rodney Tolley, Rob Adams, Joan Ko, Janet Stanley, Marcus Spiller
2.55pm	Case studies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Network Planning for Walking; the Frankston Principal Pedestrian Network', Clare Davey, Traffic and Transport Coordinator, Frankston Council • 'Linking school travel planning to infrastructure', David Meiklejohn, Senior Consultant, Urbantrans and Lisa Bagnati, Transport Officer, City of Moonee Valley • 'Planning, designing and building open space in Ryde City Council', Fiona Morrison, Open Space Planner, Ryde City Council
3.55pm	Afternoon tea
4.15pm	'Seniors and walking: Obstacles and opportunities', Jan Garrard, Deakin University
	Jan Garrard is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Health and Social Development at Deakin University. Her research interests are in physical activity, active transport, women's participation in cycling, and road safety. Jan recently completed an extensive study on seniors and walking for Victoria Walks and the Council on the Aged. Other recent research projects have included evaluation of the Victorian Ride2School program, assessment of the cost and health benefit of active transport in Queensland, and a comparative analysis of trends in active travel to school in Victoria and New South Wales. Jan is a member of the Expert Advisory Committee of the Cycling Promotion Fund, a member of the Board of Road Trauma Support Services, Victoria, and, together with Julie Hatfield, is an Australian representative on the OECD/ITF Cycling Safety Working Group.
4.45pm	'Designing communities for children and busy parents', Paul Tranter
	Associate Professor Paul Tranter is a Geographer in the School of Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences (PEMS) at UNSW Canberra (the Australian Defence Force Academy) in Canberra. He lectures in global change, social geography and transport geography, and has been the recipient of three teaching awards. His research has made a pioneering contribution in the areas of child-friendly environments, active transport, and healthy and sustainable cities. These themes are brought together in a recent book – Children and Their Urban Environment: Changing Worlds, which Paul co-authored with Claire Freeman.
5.15pm	Informal networking function
6pm	Close

Thursday, March 27

9am	'Healthy Urban Initiatives', Carolyn Whitzman, Associate Professor in Urban Planning at the University of Melbourne
	Carolyn Whitzman is an Associate Professor in Urban Planning at the University of Melbourne. She is the author of Suburb, Slum, Urban Village: Transformations in Toronto's Parkdale Neighbourhood and the co-author of Safe Cities: guidelines for planning, design, and management. Previously, she worked for the City of Toronto on healthy city initiatives. Dr. Whitzman has an international reputation for her work on the prevention of violence. Her current research interests include: the policy implications of planning for liveable and equitable cities in a national and international context, planning interventions to increase independent mobility for children, and the development of participatory planning tools with women, children, and people with disability.

9.45am	Health and Community Design: The Impact Of The Built Environment On Physical Activity', Larry Frank, Canada
	Dr. Frank is a Professor and Director of the Health and Community Design Lab at the School of Community and Regional Planning, University of British Columbia. He is cross-appointed with the School of Population and Public Health and specializes in the interaction between land use, travel behaviour, air quality, and health. He has been studying the effects of neighbourhood walkability on travel patterns and sustainability for nearly 20 years. He has lead or co-authored dozens of papers and two books Health and Community Design, The Impacts of The Built Environment on Physical Activity and Urban Sprawl and Public Health. He and his colleagues have also been conducting detailed assessments of fuel consumption and climate change impacts of urban form policies. Over the past decade Dr. Frank has been working directly with local governments to help translate results from research into practice-based tools that can provide direct feedback on the health and environmental impacts of alternative transportation and land development proposals.
10.35am	Morning Tea
11.05am	'Sustainable City and Community Futures', Paul Donegan, Deputy Program Director, Grattan Institute
	Paul commenced at Grattan in 2013 as an urban development specialist after public strategy and policy roles in the Commonwealth and Victorian governments. He has led and contributed to public service advice on issues including economic policy, infrastructure procurement, health, industry support, social security, Commonwealth-State relations and public administration. Paul was the Disability Reform Adviser to the Commonwealth Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs at the introduction of Disability Care Australia.
11.35am	'Reflections on our changing journeys: past, present and future', Ben Rossiter, Executive Officer, Victoria Walks
	Ben has a background in cross sectoral partnerships, research, policy and program development, community development and health promotion. He has led Victoria Walks since its inception in 2008. Ben has presented papers, published articles and book chapters on walking and the urban experience. He is a member of the Victorian Pedestrian Advisory Council, the Victorian Government's Cycling Reference Group and a board member of the International Federation of Pedestrians. Ben's presentation will explore the recent evolution of walking promotion and creation of walkable environments and set out directions for the future.
12.10pm	Panel session: 'How can we make it happen?'
	Carolyn Whitzman, Larry Frank, Paul Donegan, Ben Rossiter
12.40pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Case studies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Design Parramatta: New Ideas To Shape The City', Kati Westlake, Senior Urban Designer, Parramatta City Council • 'Retrofitting the suburbs for people,' Charles Nilsen, Manager, Urban Design, Monash City Council • 'Realising emission reductions via passive transport strategies', Jane Waldoock, Manager Sustainability and Strategic Transport City of Yarra
2.35pm	'Ensuring Portland (Oregon) is a liveable and healthy city', Charlie Hales, Mayor (video)
	As Mayor of Portland, Charlie has vowed to ensure the quality of life for all by working with neighborhoods to identify their needs. Portland is already a model for sustainable transport – Walkscore calls it the most 'bikeable' large city in the U.S. – but Charlie sees much room for improvement. The next step is to improve safety and comfort for all by creating more Complete Streets, filling the gaps in the active transportation network, extending street design features such as advance bike boxes at intersections, 20 mph residential speed limits, and pedestrian/bicycle signal improvements. Charlie's work has been honored by the Bruner Foundation for Urban Excellence, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association, the League of Oregon Cities and the Portland Bicycle Transportation Alliance.
3pm	'Implications and actions for local government': general brainstorming and planning session
3.30pm	Close

Cost:

\$550 (including GST)

To Register:

For online registration and conference details go to www.mav.asn.au/events (click on 'upcoming events' and scroll down to March 26).

Queries:

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Note: Program subject to change.

Accommodation:

Mercure Hotel, 13 Spring Street, Melbourne. Toll free: 1800 813442
Rydges Melbourne, 186 Exhibition Street (03 96620511)

